

OCT 24 1961 *Per 2 m D. TAYLOR*

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Comforting Thought

There is considerable comfort in the fact that a man like Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor holds the confidence of President Kennedy.

It is reassuring to know that this distinguished military leader is looking into the troubled situation in South Viet Nam.

General Taylor has seen brave men die in battle for the principles upon which this country was founded. It is unlikely that his attitudes toward the Communist will jibe with those of the numerous

confused weeklings surrounding the President.

It could be too late for a man even of Taylor's ability to come up with a proper answer to the Southwest Asia problem. Lesser men have let the situation deteriorate to a condition of helplessness.

At any rate, we can count on Taylor giving the President a realistic appraisal of the picture, which is far from what we have had in many instances in recent years.

U.S. intelligence has done a frightfully miserable job. This is indicated by the mention recently of new scandals within the Central Intelligence Agency. If this group had been on its toes, Communist forces would have been checked long before they were able to build their present position of strength in Southeast Asia.